

# HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY FORM

## IDENTIFICATION SECTION

Field Site No. X-1 OAHP No. \_\_\_\_\_ Date Recorded 12 November 1997  
Site Name Historic 601-A Scale House  
Common Railroad Scale House  
Field Recorder Holly K. Chamberlain  
Owner's Name U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office  
Address P.O. Box 550  
City/State/Zip Code Richland, WA 99352

### Status

☒ Survey/Inventory  
☐ National Register  
☐ State Register  
☐ Determined Eligible  
☐ Determined Not Eligible  
☐ Other (HABS, HAER, NHL)  
☐ Local Designation

### Photography

Photography Neg. No. HCRL Roll 379; Frames 11-14, 18-20  
(Roll No. & Frame No.)  
View of Exterior facades and interior equipment  
Date 12 November 1997

Photo at right: Roll 379, Frame 11  
View of west and south elevations

### Classification

#### District Status

#### Contributing

#### District/Thematic Nomination Name

☐ District ☐ Site ☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Object  
☒ NR ☐ SR ☐ LR ☐ INV  
☒ Non-Contributing

Hanford Site Manhattan Project and Cold War Historic District

## Description Section

### Materials & Features/Structural Types

#### Building Type

#### Plan

#### Structural System

#### No. of Stories

Industry  
Rectangular  
Wood Frame  
One

### Roof Type

☐ Gable ☐ Hip  
☐ Flat ☐ Pyramidal  
☐ Monitor ☐ Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Gambrel  
☒ Shed

### Cladding (Exterior Wall Surfaces)

☐ Log  
☐ Horizontal Wood Siding  
☐ Rustic/Drop  
☐ Clapboard

☐ Wood Shingle  
☐ Board and Batten  
☐ Vertical Board  
☒ Asbestos/Asphalt  
☐ Brick  
☐ Stone  
☐ Stucco  
☐ Terra Cotta  
☐ Concrete/Concrete Block  
☐ Vinyl/Aluminum Siding  
☐ Metal (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

### Roof Material

☐ Wood Shingle  
☐ Wood Shake  
☐ Composition  
☐ Slate  
☐ Tar/Built-up  
☐ Tile  
☒ Metal (specify) Corrugated  
☐ Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Not visible

### Foundation

☐ Log ☐ Concrete  
☐ Post & Pier ☐ Block  
☐ Stone ☒ Poured  
☐ Brick ☐ Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Not visible

### Integrity

(Include detailed description in  
Description of Physical Appearance)

	Intact	Slight	Moderate	Extensive
Changes to plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Changes to windows		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Changes to original cladding			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Changes to interior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Other (specify) <u>roof</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

State of Washington, Department of Community Development  
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
111 21st Avenue Southwest, Post Office Box 48343  
Olympia, Washington 98504-8343 (206)753-4011

## LOCATION SECTION

### Address

X-1 Building, 1100 Area

### City/Town/County/Zip Code

Richland/Benton County/99352

### Twp. 10 N Range

28 E

### Section

27

### 1/4 Section

SE

### 1/4 1/4 Sec

### Tax No./Parcel No.

### Acreage

### Quadrangle or map name

Richland, Washington, 7.5 minute series

### UTM References Zone

11

### Easting

### Northing

### Plat/Block/Lot

### Supplemental Map(s)



### High Styles/Forms (Check one or more of the following)

<input type="checkbox"/> Greek Revival	<input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Colonial Revival/Mediterranean
<input type="checkbox"/> Gothic Revival	<input type="checkbox"/> Tudor Revival
<input type="checkbox"/> Italianate	<input type="checkbox"/> Craftsman/Arts & Crafts
<input type="checkbox"/> Second Empire	<input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow
<input type="checkbox"/> Romanesque Revival	<input type="checkbox"/> Prairie Style
<input type="checkbox"/> Stick Style	<input type="checkbox"/> Art Deco/Art Moderne
<input type="checkbox"/> Queen Anne	<input type="checkbox"/> Rustic Style
<input type="checkbox"/> Shingle Style	<input type="checkbox"/> International Style
<input type="checkbox"/> Colonial Revival	<input type="checkbox"/> Northwest Style
<input type="checkbox"/> Beaux Arts/Neoclassical	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Vernacular
<input type="checkbox"/> Chicago/Commercial Style	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential Vernacular (see below)
<input type="checkbox"/> American Foursquare	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mission Revival	<u>Industrial Vernacular</u>

### Vernacular House Types

☐ Gable Front  
☐ Gable Front and Wing  
☐ Side Gable

☐ Cross Gable  
☐ Pyramidal/Hipped  
☐ Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

## NARRATIVE SECTION

### Study Unit Themes (check one or more of the following)

☐ Agriculture  
☐ Architecture/Landscape Architecture  
☐ Arts  
☐ Commerce  
☐ Communications  
☐ Community Planning/Development

☐ Conservation  
☐ Education  
☐ Entertainment/Recreation  
☐ Ethnic Heritage (specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Health/Medicine  
☐ Manufacturing/Industry  
☐ Military

☐ Politics/Government/Law  
☐ Religion  
☐ Science & Engineering  
☐ Social Movements/Organizations  
☐ Transportation  
☒ Other (specify) Cold War Era  
☒ **Study Unit Sub-Theme(s)** General Site, Facilities Support (Crafts);  
General Site, Facilities Support (Maintenance)  
General Site, Facilities Support (Infrastructure)

### Statement of Significance

Date of Construction Between 1954 and 1964 Architect/Engineer/Builder General Electric Hanford Company

☒ In the opinion of the surveyor, this property appears to meet the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places.  
☒ In the opinion of the surveyor, this property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local).

The Railroad Scale House (X-1 Building) houses a portion of the scale used to weigh freight cars to test the accuracy of their claimed loads, and is connected to the rest of the scale, which is located underneath the adjacent railroad siding in the scale beam pit. To weigh a car, the train is shunted from the main rail line onto the siding to the west of the scale house in such a way as to position the car directly over the scale track. The weight register is read from inside the scale house. A trap door in the floor of the scale house provides access to the scale underneath the tracks. A scale house has been situated at the location of the present one since about October 1950, when the Transcontinental Weight Bureau Test Car, as per requests from General Electric's Transportation Division and the Washington Public Service Commission, arrived in the recently-established Richland Classification Yard to test the railroad scales. At the time, the scale house, located in the then-new 1100 Area north of Richland and south of the 300 Area, was one of two scale houses at the Hanford Site. (The other scale house, at the Riverland Classification Yard, was demolished in the mid- to late-1950s.) The Richland Classification Yard could hold up to 280 cars at a time, and was used as a switching area for Union Pacific and Northern Pacific freight train cars coming from the south to be made into trains attached to Hanford Site diesel engines which would be allowed to enter into the highly secure operating areas. (See continuation sheet)

### Description of Physical Appearance

The one-story X-1 Building is located at the southern end of the Richland Classification Yard in the 1100 Area, to the east of the scale track siding and other railroad tracks. Set on a concrete slab foundation, the rectangular, wood-framed Railroad Scale House is sheathed in asbestos shingles. The latter were applied over earlier asphalt siding before 1964. The exterior walls are finished with wooden corner boards. Sloping from west to east, the shed roof has slightly overhanging eaves. It is covered with corrugated metal roofing, which was applied over composition roofing sometime after 1964. The door and windows are wood framed. The one entrance, on the east end of the north side, has a wooden door with a window set into the upper portion. There is a pair of windows on the east side, and one window on the west end of the south side. All windows, with the exception of the one in the door, were originally double-hung but were converted at an unknown date to having the upper sash fixed. Building measurements are 13 feet, 7 inches by 25 feet.

The interior, which consists of a single room, has wooden floors, and plasterboard walls and ceiling. There is a trapdoor in the floor leading to the weighing mechanism underneath the railroad tracks. The portion of the Fairbanks-Morse scale which allows the weight of a rail car to be read is situated along the western side of the room.

### Major Bibliographic References

Chamberlain, William W., retired Hanford site technical writer. 11 November 1997. Interview and site visit. Richland, Washington.

Cummings, R. J., Engineer/Lock and Tag Custodian, DynCorp Tri-Cities Services, Inc. 12 November 1997. Interview. Richland, Washington.

General Electric Company. November 1950. Hanford Works Monthly Report for October 1950. HW-19325-Del. Richland, Washington

Sorenson, Donald. Aerial photograph of 1100 Area, circa 1954, from private collection of Donald Sorenson. Kennewick, Washington.

U.S. Atomic Energy Commission/General Electric Study Group for the Economic Development of Richland. 1964. Catalog of Hanford Buildings and Facilities Miscellaneous. Richland, Washington.